

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested. No new matter is added by the amendments herein.

Claims 1, 2, 6, 9-13, and 18-27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2005/0120384 to Stone, et al. (“Stone”) in view of U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0184643 to Fichet (“Fichet”).

Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection in view of the amendments and remarks herein.

Independent Claim 1

Independent claim 1 as amended recites, “a set top box (STB) configured to be coupled to a TV service provider headend and having an STB DVI interconnect, wherein the STB and the HDTV are configured such that responsive to the HDTV DVI interconnect being initially electrically coupled to the STB DVI interconnect, the HDTV presents a data signal to the STB and the STB presents the data signal to the headend.”

Stone discloses a way to download software and firmware updates to an HDTV appliance via a television terminal. Stone, Abstract. In particular, a download control message (containing a first version identifier and a first type identifier) is forwarded to the television terminal. Stone, paragraph 0005. The television terminal also receives a second version identifier and a second type identifier from the HDTV appliance. Stone, paragraph 0005. Based on a comparison of the first and second version identifiers and the first and second type identifiers, the television terminal decides whether to pass the update to the HDTV appliance. Stone, paragraph 0005.

However, as correctly indicated by the Office Action, Stone does not teach or suggest that the television appliance sends any information to a headend, especially in response to the HDTV appliance DVI interconnect being initially electrically coupled to the television terminal. The Office Action relies on Fichet for this feature.

Fichet discloses that a receiver/decoder may include a SetUp software application for configuring the receiver/decoder, primarily the first time it is used. Fichet, paragraph 0182. However, Fichet fails to teach or suggest that the SetUp application is executed *responsive to a*

television being initially electrically connected to the receiver/decoder. However, initially *using* the receiver/decoder is not the same as initially electrically *connecting* (as claimed) an HDTV to the receiver/decoder.

While Fichet also discloses that a command is sent to the receiver/decoder via a broadcast system instructing the receiver/decoder to send information (Fichet, paragraph 0006), Fichet does not teach or suggest that the information is sent by the receiver/decoder responsive to an HDTV being initially electrically connected to the receiver/decoder. Rather, the receiver/decoder sends the information only responsive to the command.

Therefore, the combined teachings would not result in a system in which the Stone television terminal presents a data signal to the headend *responsive to* the HDTV appliance being initially electrically coupled to the television terminal. Accordingly, the combined teachings would not result in the following recited feature: “responsive to the HDTV DVI interconnect being initially electrically coupled to the STB DVI interconnect, the ... STB presents the data signal to the headend.”

For at least these reasons, it is submitted that amended claim 1 is allowable over Stone and Fichet, either alone or in combination.

Independent Claims 11, 20, 21, and 24

It is submitted that independent claims 11, 20, 21, and 24 are also allowable over Stone and Fichet for at least similar reasons as discussed above with regard to claim 1.

For example, independent claim 21 as amended recites that an STB is configured to “receive a data signal from the DVI interconnect, and, responsive to receiving the data signal from the DVI interconnect, to present the data signal to the headend.” For similar reasons as discussed above, the combined teachings of Stone and Fichet would not result in an STB sending information to the headend *responsive to* receiving a data signal from the DVI interconnect. Rather, at best the combined system would send information only responsive to a command from the broadcast system (of course, the broadcast system is not connected to the STB via the DVI interconnect).

Dependent Claims

The dependent claims are also allowable by virtue of depending from allowable independent claims, and further in view of the additional features recited therein.

Conclusion

All rejections having been addressed, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned with any questions.

Respectfully submitted,

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